Appl. No. 10/785.439 Amdt. Dated December 15, 2006 Reply to Office Action of September 21, 2006

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REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 4-9, 12-25, 29, 34-42, 44-46, 48, 49 and 52-57 are pending in this application. Claims 4-9, 12-25 and 29 are allowed. Claims 34-42, 44-46, 48, 49 and 52-57 stand rejected.

The Applicant wishes to bring to the Examiner's attention that claim 3 is not provided a status, nor is it addressed in the Examiner's present Office Action. The Applicant believes claim 3 is allowable, as claim 3 depends upon allowed claim 6. The Applicant seeks confirmation from The Examiner in the next office action that claim 3 is allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected Claims 46, 48-49 and 52-57 under 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement, and under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

With the submission of this paper, the Applicant cancels claims 46, 48-49 and 52-57.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 34-42, 44-46, 48-49 and 52-57 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent Number 6,434,807 to Begin (Begin). The Applicant

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wishes to bring to the attention of the Examiner that the Applicant's office action reply of June 26, 2006 canceled claims 35 and 43-45.

With the submission of this paper, the Applicant cancels claims 34, 36-42.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicates that Claims 4-9, 12-25 and 29 are allowed. The Applicant wishes to thank The Examiner for the allowance of these claims. As discussed above, the Applicant asserts that claim 3 is also allowable, since claim 3 depends from claim 6, which is allowed.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, the Applicant submits that each the remaining claims are in condition for allowance. The Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees due or to credit any overpayments, during the prosecution of this Application, to <u>Deposit Account</u>

Number 21-0279.

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If the Examiner believes a telephone conversation would help place the claims in even better condition for allowance, he is invited to contact The Applicant's Agent at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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